

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office  
FLOOR DEBATE

May 11, 2005

LB 425, 716

SENATOR ENGEL: Yes, you may.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator...senator.

SENATOR STUHR: Senator Engel, when...it's my understanding that what we are discussing now is that we are not discussing LB 716, that that bill is more or less dead, and that we are looking at the statutes that are presently in...or the provisions that are presently in statute.

SENATOR ENGEL: That's true.

SENATOR STUHR: Is that correct?

SENATOR ENGEL: That's correct.

SENATOR STUHR: When was that statute written?

SENATOR ENGEL: Here, I've got it in front of me, if I can find out when it was...1998, I believe.

SENATOR STUHR: 1998? There's been some concern about, maybe those are not...some of the provisions in that statute are not really what we want to accomplish. And I guess that's what I have concern about, is that...what would be so wrong about taking six more months to really look at this, and come back with something that we are...that has been more carefully thought out? That is one of the things that is bothering me at this point. Also, which, accountability comes in. Where is the accountability? We don't know exactly how the program is going to be administered. I just...I feel that this is something that we need to do. I would feel much more comfortable with a smaller amount of money, since actually it's been shown that we haven't used the amount of money previously that was set aside. But I think that we can certainly show our intentions that we're working on this. We just passed a major business incentive bill--I mean, we didn't pass it; we passed the first round--a couple days ago. I just don't see, you know, why we can't take a little bit more time. I...the one thing I do really support is using the community colleges, the technical colleges, the postsecondary colleges for that additional training. But